

Partisan Defense Committee

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1943-1982

12 May 2025

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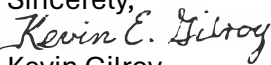
Bay Area
Representative
Karen Allen

Los Angeles
Representative
Kathy Ikegami

We write to vigorously protest the detention and threatened deportation of Alfredo "Lelo" Juarez Zeferino, a leader of the farm workers union Familias Unidas por la Justicia. On March 25, Zeferino was arrested in Skagit County, Washington and transferred to a detention center in Tacoma. where he remains pending an immigration hearing tomorrow. An indigenous Mixteco immigrant from Mexico, Zeferino has been organizing since picking berries at the age of 14. He has successfully fought for improved state standards to protect farm workers from grueling heat, and won overtime pay and other basic improvements.

Across the country the government has targeted the largely isolated and vulnerable immigrant farmworkers. On May 2 in New York, ICE agents boarded a bus full of farm workers en route to work, called out names of 14 United Farm Workers activists, and dragged them off to jail where they await deportation. In California, hundreds have been arrested and targeted for deportation, where over half of farm workers are undocumented.

We demand: Release the detained farm workers! Hands off the farm workers unions! No deportations!

Sincerely,

Kevin Gilroy

For the Partisan Defense Committee

The PDC is a class-struggle, non-sectarian legal and social defense organization which champions cases and causes in the interest of the whole of the working people. This purpose is in accordance with the political views of the Spartacist League.

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